

OUNDLE *Shupp*

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL,

1902.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

B. ROWORTH TURNER, B.A., M.B., B.C Cantab.

OUNDLE AND THRAPSTON :

ALFRED KING AND SON, PRINTERS AND STATIONERS.

OUNDLE,

FEBRUARY, 1903-

To the Oundle Urban District Council.

GENTLEMEN,

In presenting my Annual Report I have to offer the Council my congratulations on the satisfactory state of the health of the town.

Births and Deaths. It is however, a matter of regret that the birth-rate this year is very low.

The total number of births registered in the district was 29, giving a birth-rate of 12·06 per thousand. This is considerably below the average we had during the ten preceding years, which was 17·8 per 1000. Then the population was over estimated, which would make the return a trifle lower than it actually was, still 29 births is the lowest number we have had. It may be purely accidental, but the statistics of the past ten years show steady decrease in the rate.

The total of deaths registered in the district was 40, but as this includes 14 deaths which occurred in Oundle Workhouse and 12 of those 14 deaths were those of non-residents in the district, the net total of deaths occurring in the district during the year is 28, giving the low average of 11·6 per 1000 inhabitants. Of these deaths, 2 were those of children under 1 year of age, and 15 of persons aged 65 and upwards, 8 of these being over 80 years of age.

No deaths were attributable to Scarlet Fever, Enteric Fever, Diphtheria or Tubercular Disease. Influenza claimed one victim who was over 65 years of age. Diarrhoea and Enteritis were responsible for the deaths of the two children under 1 year of age. Heart disease caused 6 deaths, Cancer 1, Bronchitis 3.

Zymotic

Diseases.

There were 10 notifications during the year—Diphtheria 1, Scarlet Fever 2, Erysipelas 7 cases. The case of Diphtheria was imported from South Wales. The source of the 2 cases of Scarlet Fever could not be traced. It is worthy of note that a case of Scarlet Fever had occurred 11 months previously in the same house as one of these cases.

The cases of Erysipelas were all in subjects over 35 years of age.

Owing to an extensive but mild outbreak of Measles the British School was closed for three weeks in March, and in October, both National and British Schools were closed for three weeks owing to an outbreak of Mumps.

Summer diarrhoea did not appear in epidemic form.

Small-pox.

At the beginning of the year the wide-spread epidemic of Small-pox gave rise to some uneasiness, and the way in which Oundle has escaped is most providential. Our first escape occurred in February, when a tramp slept in the Casual Ward, developing Small-pox seven days later at Bedford. Since that date two contacts from the Wellingborough cases slept here. On one occasion a man arrived at the Union complaining of illness, and I found he had come from the Strand Union, London, in 8 days, where Small-pox was very prevalent. This man had been vaccinated in the Strand Union. I merely mention this case to illustrate one of the ways in which the disease is spread, and the chief one we have to fear. (A case occurred in Thrapston on January 11th, 1903, the man having slept in our Casual Ward the previous night.) I may mention that ever since the case in February, the clothing of all tramps has been disinfected every night; and the wards were disinfected after every case mentioned above.

I mentioned in my last Annual Report that a Hospital Tent had been purchased and erected at Wakerley Cottage. A number of the inhabitants were re-vaccinated, thus lessening our chance of an epidemic.

- Enteric.** There has been no Enteric Fever.
- Overcrowding.** Only one case occurred in St. Osythe's Lane, and the nuisance was promptly abated. Drumming Well Yard was inspected. Of the 13 cottages 5 only are inhabited, the others being unfit for habitation. The yard has sufficient closet accomodation and is efficiently drained.
- Drainage.** The Sewerage and Drainage of the Town have been very satisfactory, several fresh connections have been made with the main sewer.
- Water Supply.** The supply is excellent in quantity and quality, the latter being proved by periodical analysis.
- Slaughter Houses.** The Slaughter Houses have been regularly inspected and found in good condition.
- Bake Houses.** These are also in good condition.
- Factory Act.** The Workshops have been visited and found satisfactory as to lighting, air space, ventilation and sanitary appliances. A Register of Workshops is appended.

The question of an Isolation Hospital is still in abeyance.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours obediently.

B. ROWORTH TURNER, B.A., M.B., B.C. Cantab.

Register of Workshops in District.

Gann, Miss, North Street	...	...	...	Dressmaker.
Stafford, Miss, Market Place	...	...	...	"
Davidson, Mr. F. G., Market Place	...	...	...	"
Wood, Mrs., North Street	...	...	...	"
Thurlby, Miss J., New Street	...	...	...	"
Green, Mr. Wm., Market Place	...	...	...	Baking.
Redhead, Mr. Wm., Market Place	...	...	...	"
Gann, Mr. R., New Street	...	...	...	Cabinet Maker.
Howitt, Mrs. E. A., New Street	...	...	...	Saddler.
Loveday, Mr. A., West Street	...	...	...	"
King, Mr., New Street	...	...	...	Printing.
Coulson, Mr., New Street	...	...	...	Tailor.
Curtis, Mr. C. H., North Street	...	...	...	Plumber.
Binder and Son, West Street	...	...	...	Wheelwright.
Turner, Mr. C. J., West Street	...	...	...	Basket Maker.

TABLE I.
Oundle Urban District.

Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1902 and previous years.

YEAR.	Population estimated to Middle of each year.	BIRTHS.		TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.				TOTAL DEATHS IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS IN THE DISTRICT.	Deaths of Non-residents registered in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institutions beyond the District.	NETT DEATHS AT ALL AGES BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.	
		Number.	Rate.*	Under 1 Yr. of Age		At all Ages.					Number.	Rate.*
				Number.	Rate per 1,000 Births registered.	Number.	Rate.*					
I	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1892	2,680	52	19'4	14	269'2	76	29'4	27	8		68	25'3
1893	2,680	54	20'1	7	129'6	57	22	18	5		52	19'4
1894	2,680	64	23'8	3	46'8	43	16	11			43	16
1895	2,680	58	21'4	5	86'6	47	17'5	12			47	17'5
1896	2,680	58	21'4	7	120	41	52'2	9	2		39	14'5
1897	2,680	38	14'2	5	131'6	35	13'1	7	1		34	12'6
1898	2,680	40	14'9	1	25	35	13'1	12	5		30	11'1
1899	2,680	36	13'4	4	111'1	32	11'9	13	5		27	10
1900	2,680	30	11'1	3	100	40	14'9	13	2		38	14'1
1901	2,404	45	18'7	4	88'8	41	17	13	11		30	12'4
Averages for years 1892--1901	2,652	47	17'8	5	110'8	44	17	13	4		40	15'2
1902	2,404	29	12'06	2	69	40	16'6	14†	12		28	11'6

* Rates in Columns 4, 8, and 13 calculated per 1,000 of estimated population.

† Oundle Union Workhouse.

By the term "Non-residents" is meant persons brought into the district on account of sickness or infirmity, and dying in public institutions there; and by the term "Residents" is meant persons who have been taken out of the district on account of sickness or infirmity, and have died in public institutions elsewhere.

Area of District in acres (exclusive of

area covered by water) 3,144.

Total population at all ages 2,404

Number of inhabited houses 513

Average number of persons per house 4'68

} At Census of 1901.

TABLE II.
Oundle Urban District.

Vital Statistics of separate localities in 1902 and previous years.

NAMES OF LOCALITIES.												
	Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.
YEAR.												
1892												
1893												
1894												
1895												
1896												
1897												
1898												
1899												
1900												
1901												
Averages of Years 1892 to 1901												
1902												

NOTE.—In small districts without recognised divisions of known population this Table need not be filled up.

TABLE III.
Oundle Urban District.
Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1902.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT.						
	At all Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 65.	65 and upwards.
Small-pox ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cholera ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Membranous croup	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet fever	1	...	...	1	...	5	2
Typhus fever	7	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric fever	2	...	1	1	...	...	...
Relapsing fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Continued fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Plague ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals	10	...	1	2	...	5	2

TABLE IV.

Oundle Urban District.

Causes of, and Ages at, Death during year 1902.

Causes of Death.	Deaths in or belonging to Whole District at subjoined Ages.							Total Deaths in Public Institutions in the District.
	All ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and upwards.	
Small-pox								
Measles								
Scarlet fever								
Whooping-cough								
Diphtheria and membranous croup								
Croup								
Fever { Typhus								
Enteric								
Other continued								
Epidemic influenza	1						1	
Cholera								
Plague								
Diarrhœa	1	1						
Enteritis	1	1						
Puerperal fever								
Erysipelas								
Other septic diseases								
Phthisis								
Other tubercular diseases								
Cancer, malignant disease	1					1		
Bronchitis	3					1	2	2
Pneumonia								
Pleurisy								
Other diseases of respiratory organs	1						1	
Alcoholism								
Cirrhosis of liver	1					1		
Venereal diseases								
Premature birth								
Diseases and accidents of parturition								
Heart diseases	6					4	2	3
Accidents	1						1	
Suicides								
Cerebral hæmorrhage	3					2	1	
Apoplexy	1						1	
Rheumatism	1				1			
Peritonitis	1					1		
All other causes	6						6	9
All causes	28	2			1	10	15	14